

...enough that we could not run the station without people of their caliber."

The couple met in the Air Force. King, originally from North Carolina, was a biochemist with the Air Force and later taught at Weber State University in Ogden. Eppie, a Massachusetts native, is a retired nurse. Both also spent time volunteering for the Methodist Church.

They obviously enjoy people. The relative quiet of both the Wildcat Guard Station and Kane Gulch lures between 30 to 40 visitors on a weekday and more than 100 on holiday weekends.

"The world comes to us," says King. "We get Hungarians and Italians. They ask to have their photos taken with us."

Eppie points to a small desk with notes written in Polish, Russian, German and French. They are basic words in those languages such as "thank you" or "welcome."

"King always tries to learn the language," she says.

The couple are big on gifts. King enjoys whittling wood, often surprising visitors by presenting them with a hand-made wooden spatula or a purposely dull "sword" for a child who might like to play make-believe in the forest. Eppie makes hummingbird food.

Tourists looking at the name of the station often ask where the wildcats are, or wonder about the small yellow animals they see on the side of Highway 12, allowing King to expound on the marmot.

Working four days on and four off, there is time to explore this wild world around them, discovering new bits of information and staying young by keeping minds and bodies active.

The places the couple live are natural treasures. And those who know their work ethic, friendliness and love of the land might call volunteers like the Hastingses national treasures worth celebrating, too.

# Teaching the Value of Hard Work

## West Valley educator has spent a lifetime promoting home economics

BY ASHLEY ESTES

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

WEST VALLEY CITY — After more than eight decades of teaching, learning and giving, Maxine Newton isn't ready to quit.

The winner of a national award for volunteerism, Newton is using the \$1,000 award money to help young people learn the value of hard work and responsibility, and how to build a home and family.

The 83-year-old West Valley City resident believes home economics is the key to solving many of society's ills, such as child abuse and broken families. That's why she is trying to start an endowment for home economics majors at Brigham Young University's College of Family, Home and Social Sciences.

"I look at the high school kids today, they don't have any respect," Newton said.

■ Utah's teacher of the year

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"I am a common-sense person. I see common sense is hard to come by."

One of eight children, Newton learned about hard work from her parents. Raised during the Depression, she worked for \$3 a month — as dressmaker, elevator operator and salesperson, among other jobs — to get through high school.

"That's the most wonderful thing that could have happened to me," she said.

She began making her own clothes as an eighth-grader, something she continues today, despite nagging arthritis in her hands.

Newton was already a grandmother when she entered the University of Utah at age 45, graduating cum laude four years later in 1966 with a bachelor's degree in home economics. At age 57, she received her master's degree from the university,

then completed 60 additional related hours at Utah State University and Brigham Young University to qualify as an education specialist.

"I love every minute of all of it," Newton told *The Salt Lake Tribune* in a story that appeared on Nov. 1, 1964. "My classmates have accepted me even though most of them are younger than my daughter."

"I have a wonderful husband who has encouraged me and even pitches in with the housework to give me the time I need for study."

Newton spent her teaching career at West Valley City, beginning at West Valley Junior High School and later moving to Granger High School. She retired in 1986 a few months before her 70th birthday, as home economics teacher and department chairwoman at Granger. She started o

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## MagCorp May Reduce Pollution

Technology could cut plant's chlorine emissions west of S.L. by 95%

BY JIM WOOLF

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

A new technology that could slash air pollution from the Magnesium Corporation of America plant on the western shore of the Great Salt Lake is on the verge of being approved by state regulators.

MagCorp for years has topped the list of America's emitters of "toxic" air pollutants because of the massive quantities of chlorine it belches into the sky. But a new process being proposed by the company would cut those emissions by 95 percent or more, Tom Tripp, technical services manager for the company, said Friday.

Also Friday, the U.S. Environmental Protection announced that MagCorp and the federal government have agreed to conduct a thorough study of dioxins found in wastes on the company's site, located about 50 miles west of Salt Lake City. Tripp said a verbal agreement to do the work has been made but the final written accord has not yet been signed.

Dioxins are a class of persistent chemicals produced inadvertently when certain chemicals are burned. There is scientific debate over the danger of dioxins, but some research indicates exposure to low levels of dioxins can cause subtle and possibly dangerous changes in the

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## Throats of 2 Father Charged

BY FRANK CURRERI

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

Suspecting his wife was having an affair with another man's baby, a San Juan County man slashed the throats of his two young children and slashed a relative who tried to stop him, federal prosecutors alleged Friday.

Tribal police summoned the man home on the Navajo Nation reservation in southeastern Utah Monday night and found Anderson Black lying face down in a pool of blood.

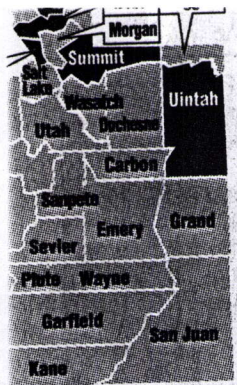
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ing operation is located market value of \$461 million, however, placed the property at \$258 million. Guy Burningham, the lower estimate and property could be worth as 9 million. ling, which says the rict would pay back \$4.6 million, is ewed by the Utah State ession, which will decide appeal the decision.

—The Park Record

Utah County Commission ded its General Plan to rovisions aimed at wild the county's Bonanza ar- 72 of the animals were y the U.S. Bureau of Land ent this summer. untly added the provision put on how the herd was on BLM land. The provi for rounding up all wild removal from the coun- he provision was elimi- r it was determined fed- has precedence over a dinance.

—Vernal Express

learfield police depart- assigned a full-time in- to a case involving a

## STUDENTS ARE BENEFICIARIES

BY ASHLEY ESTES

THE SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

Being in the spotlight makes Louise Durham uncomfortable. She would likely be content to remain anonymous in her classroom, challenging students' ideas about poetry and literature. "I think I'm like all teachers," she said. "I work as hard as I can, and I wish I could do more with 24 hours than I'm able to do."

But Durham's colleagues and supervisors at Provo's Timpview High School, where she teaches advanced placement English and journalism, say she is exceptional. And the Utah Office of Education agreed, naming her Utah's Teacher of the Year on Friday. She will represent Utah in the National Teacher of the Year competition in May 2001.

To attend the banquet in her honor, Durham rushed back from her daughter's home in Indiana, where she had traveled for the birth of a grandchild.

"I was shocked," she said Thursday of the award. "The teacher of the year, in my mind, was always someone who had stacks of papers on her desk that had been read, not papers that needed to be read."

But Timpview Principal Randy Merrill says Durham is "a master teacher." He said he

spine tingle, she is so good."

"She's the kind of teacher who sets the high-water mark for other teachers," Merrill said. "She challenges [students'] beliefs about themselves. Students always exceed their expectations after having her as a teacher."

Last year, 93 percent of Durham's students passed the advanced placement examination to earn college credit in English — 68 of those with a 5, the highest score, or a 4, Durham said.

"I have good students," she said. "They work hard, and they have supportive parents, and that's what I think successful teaching is all about."

In English class, Durham calls her teaching methods conventional. "We read novels, and we essentially spend our time talking about them. We read, we talk, we write. It actually turns out to be a lot of fun along the way."

Students say they enjoy Durham's call-it-as-you-see-it bluntness, which is tempered with genuine affection and fairness, said Timpview English teacher Debra Drummond.

"She's very hard. She expects a great deal from them, but she also helps them do it," said parent Ann Woolley. All three of Woolley's children have been taught by Durham. "She's a wonderful teacher."



Louise Durham

coming back.

But her children's school asked her to teach a class, she said. "I taught one, I taught another, and then I was hooked," she said.

She taught all four of her own children. "I just went to high school with them," she said. "It was strange because sometimes they'd raise their hands and say, 'Mrs. Durham?' and everybody in the class would laugh."

Durham also looks after her colleagues, helping them get equipment or sharing her curriculum, Merrill said.

But when a broken sprinkler system flooded Timpview days before school started this year, Durham's room was hit the hardest, he said. Durham was out of town, but other teachers, without being asked, came in on a weekend to help clean up her room.

"They just came and did it, because it's Louise," he said.

Durham attributes the award to the "generous" comments of her colleagues. But her enthusiasm for teaching shines through, despite her modesty.

"I think that a good teacher is someone who, first of all, loves what she's doing, would rather be in the classroom than anywhere else ... who has a passion for whatever," she said. "I think it's someone who helps students discover how much they have inside them that they never knew."

## MagCorp Plans Cleaner Plant Operation

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human body.

Previous studies by MagCorp found moderate levels of dioxins in wastes along drainage ditches on its property. Follow-up studies by the EPA found much lower levels in the same area, calling into question the earlier findings. The new study announced Friday will

include extensive monitoring of the MagCorp site followed by preparation of a detailed study that calculates the risk of dioxins and another chemical to workers and the public.

"If a problem is found, MagCorp has agreed to clean it up," said Tripp.

A bigger development is the company's confirmation of a long-rumored new technology that more efficiently separates magnesium from magnesium chloride salt found in the Great Salt Lake. The new process is expected to both reduce the cost of producing magnesium and cut pollution.

A request to convert to the new technology has been submitted to

the Utah Division of Air Quality. Approval is expected soon.

"We're obviously very pleased they are doing this," said Rick Sprott, the division's acting director. "I can't imagine there will be any complaint with this project."

A copy of MagCorp's request also has been distributed to members of the group known as Citizens Against Chlorine Contamination (CACC), which for years has been pushing MagCorp to cut its chlorine emissions.

"We're glad MagCorp is beginning to be more responsive and we applaud that," said CACC's Kathy Van Dame. "This new technology is attractive to MagCorp because it will reduce their production costs."

But it looks like there will be a very significant reduction in emissions, too."

MagCorp released 57,691,060 pounds of chlorine into the air in 1998 — the last year that data was available from EPA. Although that was a reduction from the company's 1997 total of 62,335,864 pounds, it still was enough for MagCorp to retain its dubious honor of being the nation's largest emitter of toxic air pollutants.

Tripp said the plan is to start installing the new technology early next year and have the project finished by the end of 2001. That means major reductions in chlorine emissions won't be seen until 2002, assuming all the machinery works properly.

## Children Slain: Father

support of the charges, which said Black had searched days earlier for his best friend but had been unable to find him.

protect Nicole, but Black cut his relative's face with a knife, a deep laceration that would require 28 stitches. He then turned the knife

dead children. Black, the witness told police, repeatedly kissed their dead bodies and said, "I'm sorry. I'm sorry."

Police arrested Black after forc-